# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# WATER RESOURCES
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:142
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
DISBANDING OF TASK FORCE ON LINKING OF RIVERS
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Jai Prakash Shri

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has decided to disband the Task Force on rivers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of links identified to link Peninsular rivers;

(d) the estimated costs of these links;

(e) by when the linking work would commence;

(f) whether the Government proposes to constitute any special cell on inter-linking of rivers in place of Task Force; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI)

(a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. +142 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.3.2005 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING DISBANDING OF TASK FORCE ON LINKING OF RIVERS

(a) & (b) Keeping in view that the Task Force on Inter Linking of Rivers (TFILR) had completed its mandated task by submitting Action Plan-I in April 2003 and Action Plan-II in April 2004 respectively to the Government; it was decided to wind up TFILR with effect from (w.e.f..) December 31, 2004.

(c) & (d) 16 links have been identified for preparation of feasibility reports under Peninsular Component. The estimated cost of these links (at 2002-03 price level) is Rs. 1,85,000 crores.

(e) The implementation of Inter Linking of Rivers (ILR) programme would depend on how fast the consensus between concerned States is arrived at for preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the link proposed.

(f) & (g) A Special Cell under the Ministry of Water Resources, has been constituted w.e.f. 1.1.2005 to look after the residual routine work of the TF-ILR and for taking follow up action on the ILR programme. A Committee of Environmentalists, Social Scientists and Other Experts under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources was constituted on 28th December, 2004 with a view to make the process of proceeding on ILR consultative.